

**U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:18-cv-00968-TSC**

JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. et al v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
STATE

Assigned to: Judge Tanya S. Chutkan  
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 04/25/2018

Jury Demand: None

Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of  
Information Act

Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff**

**JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.**

represented by **Michael Bekesha**  
JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.  
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**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

**Plaintiff**

**DAILY CALLER NEWS  
FOUNDATION**

represented by **Michael Bekesha**  
(See above for address)  
**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

V.

**Defendant**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

represented by **Christopher Charles Hair**  
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**TERMINATED: 02/15/2019**

**Doris Denise Coles-Huff**  
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 ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

| Date Filed | #        | Docket Text  |
|------------|----------|--|
| 04/25/2018 | <u>1</u> | COMPLAINT against U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE ( Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090-5441416) filed by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons US Attorney for DC, # <u>3</u> Summons US Atty General, # <u>4</u> Summons US Department of State)(Bekesha, Michael) (Entered: 04/25/2018)   |
| 04/25/2018 | <u>2</u> | LCvR 7.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. (Bekesha, Michael) (Entered: 04/25/2018)  |
| 04/25/2018 | <u>3</u> | LCvR 7.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by THE DAILY CALLER NEWS FOUNDATION (Bekesha, Michael); Modified on 4/26/2018 to correct filer's name. (tth) (Entered: 04/25/2018)  |
| 04/25/2018 |          | Case Assigned to Judge Tanya S. Chutkan. (jd) (Entered: 04/26/2018)  |
| 04/27/2018 | <u>4</u> | SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(zrdj) (Entered: 04/27/2018)   |
| 05/10/2018 | <u>5</u> | RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 5/7/2018. ( Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 6/6/2018.), RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 05/07/2018., RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE served on 5/7/2018 (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Affidavit of Cristina Rotaru)(Bekesha, Michael) (Entered: 05/10/2018)  |
| 05/18/2018 | <u>6</u> | NOTICE of Appearance by Damon William Taaffe on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Taaffe, Damon) (Entered: 05/18/2018)   |
| 06/06/2018 | <u>7</u> | ANSWER to Complaint by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE.(Taaffe, Damon) (Entered: 06/06/2018)  |
| 06/11/2018 |          | MINUTE ORDER: Before the Court in this FOIA case are a complaint and an answer. The requirements of LCvR 16.3 and Rule 26(f) of the Federal Rules of Civil procedure appear to be inapplicable. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the parties shall meet and confer and propose a schedule for proceeding in this matter. The schedule shall address the status of Plaintiffs' FOIA request, the anticipated number of documents responsive to Plaintiffs' FOIA request, the anticipated date(s) for release of the documents requested by Plaintiffs', whether a motion for an Open America stay is likely in this case, whether a Vaughn index will be required in this case, whether and when either party anticipates filing a dispositive motion, and any other pertinent issues. The parties shall file a joint status report that addresses these issues and that contains a proposed schedule and proposed order no later than 7/11/18. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 6/11/18. (DJS) (Entered: 06/11/2018) |
| 06/12/2018 |          | Set/Reset Deadlines: Proposed Briefing Schedule due by 7/11/2018. (tb) (Entered: 06/12/2018)   |
| 07/11/2018 | <u>8</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Taaffe, Damon) (Entered: 07/11/2018)   |
| 07/18/2018 |          | MINUTE ORDER: Having considered the parties' Joint Status Report <u>8</u> , it is hereby ordered that the parties shall file another joint report by 9/12/18 and every 60 days thereafter. To the extent the parties propose a production and/or briefing schedule, the report SHALL CONTAIN A PROPOSED ORDER. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 7/18/18. (DJS) (Entered: 07/18/2018)  |
| 07/19/2018 |          | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 9/12/2018. (tb) (Entered: 07/19/2018)  |
| 09/12/2018 | <u>9</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Taaffe, Damon) (Entered: 09/12/2018)   |

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| 11/13/2018 | <u>10</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Taaffe, Damon) (Entered: 11/13/2018)   |
| 01/10/2019 | <u>11</u> | MOTION to Stay by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Coles–Huff, Doris) (Entered: 01/10/2019)   |
| 01/17/2019 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Granting <u>11</u> Motion to Stay. All deadlines are hereby STAYED. Defendant's counsel shall notify the court promptly after Congress has appropriated funds for the Justice Department. It is further ordered that all current deadlines for the parties shall be extended commensurate with the duration of the lapse in appropriations. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 1/17/19. (DJS) (Entered: 01/17/2019) |
| 01/30/2019 | <u>12</u> | NOTICE of Restored Government Funding by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Taaffe, Damon) (Entered: 01/30/2019)  |
| 02/15/2019 | <u>13</u> | NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL by Christopher Charles Hair on behalf of All Defendants (Hair, Christopher) (Entered: 02/15/2019)  |
| 03/04/2019 |           | MINUTE ORDER LIFTING STAY: Effective 1/25/19. See ECF No. 12. The parties shall file a joint status report by 3/15/19 and every 60 days thereafter. To the extent the parties propose a production and/or briefing schedule, the report shall contain a proposed order. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 3/4/19. (DJS) (Entered: 03/04/2019)  |
| 03/15/2019 | <u>14</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Hair, Christopher) (Entered: 03/15/2019)   |
| 05/14/2019 | <u>15</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Hair, Christopher) (Entered: 05/14/2019)   |